1: Hart, C. W. M. and Arnold R. Pilling. The Tiwi of North Australia. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1960.

Pp. xii, 118; 1 map; 1 plate; bibliography

Yale: Nkd93 T5 960 H

[This account of the Tiwi is based on field work undertaken independently by each of the authors at different times. The study deals primarily with status manipulation and political behavior among the Tiwi but includes in connection with this a wide range of material on social life, marriage patterns, burial ceremonies, feuds, antagonisms, etc. The nature of Tiwi household organization, its economic functions and organization, and the functional relationship of this organization to the status system is also discussed. There is also some attempt to relate the peculiar nature of Tiwi social structure to geographical factors of isolation and to the favorable environment and abundant food supply found in their area of habitation. Religious practices and beliefs receive some treatment as well. Finally the authors consider some of the changes that have occurred among Tiwi as a result of mission influence and European contact and show how the nature of the changes has been

1: Hart, C. W. M. and Arnold R. Pilling.

adapted to basic Tiwi cultural patterns. The source is weak however on material culture and socialization processes, except for puberty initiation and there is little concrete material on kinship relations, sib and band organization.--Analyst]

Field dates: 1928-1954
Analyst: Betty Potash

Evaluation: Ethnologists-5
Processed in 1960

2: Mountford, Charles P. The Tiwi: their Art, Myth and Ceremony. London: Phoenix House, 1958.

185 pp.; 64 plates; 15 figures; map; bibliography; index.

Yale: Nkd93 T5 958M

[This source deals primarily with Tiwi art and religion. The author summarizes a number of creation myths and beliefs about nature and describes funeral and initiation ceremonies. The numerous photographs of Tiwi art are described and explained in detail. A number of indications of acculturation appear in the source, particularly with reference to song texts, and there is also some discussion of changes in the age of initiation. While initiation rites are now for men of 30 or older, Mountford believes that formerly such ceremonies took place at or around puberty. This agrees with Hart and Pilling's claim of puberty initiation. The author is an ethnologist primarily interested in art who did field work among the Tiwi. --Analyst]

Field date: 1954
Analyst: Betty Potash

Evaluation: Ethnologist-5
Processed in 1960

3: Hart, C. W. M. The Tiwi of Melville and Bathurst Islands. Oceania, Vol. 1, pp. 167-180. Melbourne: Published for the Australian National Research Council by Macmillan and Company Limited, 1930-31.

Yale: Nk 10. Oc2. 1

[This source is essentially a study of Tiwi social organization as seen first from the standpoint of the local groups and secondly from that of the "matrilineal totemic clans." In his discussion of the hordes the author describes the boundaries and territorial rights of the groups, the variations in terminology used to refer to themselves, the transmission of property rights to other members of the group, and to a lesser extent, male and female status in the horde.

This paper embodies some of the results of the research carried out by the author during the time he served as a Science Research Scholar of the University of Sydney. --Analyst]

Field date: 1928-1929
Analyst: John Beierle

Evaluation: Ethnologist-5
Processed in 1961

4: Hart, C. W. M. Personal Names Among the Tiwi. Oceania, Vol. 1, pp. 280-290. Melbourne: Published for the Australian National Research Council by Macmillan and Company Limited, 1930-31.

Yale: Nk10. Oc2. v. 1

[This article is a brief analysis of the use of personal names among the Tiwi of Melville and Bathurst Islands in North Australia. Each individual of the society has a multiplicity of personal names which he acquires during his life-time, but when death occurs not only is his name taboo to others, but also all other names similar in sound to that of the deceased. The Tiwi also impose a taboo upon all names that were bestowed by the dead person during his life-time.

[This paper was originally presented by the author to Section F, Anthropology, of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science, during the meetings in May, 1930 at Brisbane, Australia. -- Analyst]

Field date: 1928-1929
Analyst: John Beierle

Evaluation: Ethnologist-5
Processed in 1961

5: Basedow, Herbert. Notes on the Natives of Bathurst Island, North Australia. The Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, Vol. 43, pp. 291-323. London, 1913.

Yale: Nk 10. + R 81.43

[The author of these ethnographic notes, the Commonwealth Government's chief medical inspector of the area, recorded his observations during a nine-day tour to Bathurst and part of Melville Island. The data presented give attention to the physical appearance of the people, their methods, designs and techniques of body painting and tatooing, house types, clothing and personal decoration, household utensils, weapons, foods, canoes and canoe building, decorative art, ceremonies and burial practices. Special emphasis is placed in this latter category on the "memorial" poles used to mark the graves, both as to their construction and decoration. -- Analyst]

Field date: 1911
Analyst: John Beierle

Evaluation: Physician-5
Processed in 1961

6: Hart, C. W. M. The Sons of Turimpi. American Anthropologist, Vol. 56, pp. 242-261. Menasha: American Anthropological Association, 1954.

HRAF copy

[This article describes the personality characteristics of five Tiwi brothers. The author attempts to show the different types of personalities that can be encountered in primitive societies and uses these differences to point out the fallacies of culture and personality theories which suggest the presence of more or less uniform personality types. The author, an ethnologist did field work in the area. --Analyst]

Field dates: 1928-1930
Analyst: Betty Potash

Evaluation: Ethnologist-5
Processed in 1961

7: Fry, H. K. A Bathurst Island Mourning Rite. Mankind, Vol. 4, pp. 79-80. Sydney: Anthropological Societies of Australia, 1949.

Yale: Nk10 An875e 4

[This brief article describes a death ceremony witnessed by the author when he visited Bathurst island during an epidemic. The author also discusses Tiwi beliefs regarding the cause of the epidemic which they attributed to magic brought about by mainland natives on the island. -- Analyst]

Field date: 1913
Analyst: Betty Potash

Evaluation: Physician-5
Processed in 1961

8: Fry, H. K. A Bathurst Island Initiation Rite. Mankind, Vol. 4, pp. 167-168. Anthropological Societies of Australia, 1950.

Yale: Nk10 An 875e 4

[This brief article describes an initiation rite witnessed by the author. He also describes Tiwi reactions to the observer. --Analyst]

Field date: 1913
Analyst: Betty Potash

Evaluation: Physician-5
Processed in 1961

9: Harney, W. E. and A. Peter Elkin. Melville and Bathurst Islanders: A Short Description. Oceania, Vol. 13, pp. 228-234. Sydney: The Australian National Research Council, 1943.

Yale: Nk10 Oc. 2v. 13

[This is a very brief introduction to the Tiwi, providing essential information on the locale, name, social organization, rites and religion, magic and individual names of the people. The authors close with a statement on missionary influences in the area and their recommendations for future maintenance of the culture. The article is most detailed with respect to the data on social, political and territorial organization. --Analyst]

Field date: ca. 1940
Analyst: George R. Bedell

Evaluation: Ethnologists- 4, 5
Processed in 1961

10: Goodale, Jane C. Marriage Contracts Among the Tiwi. Ethnology, Vol. 1, pp. 452-466. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1962.

HRAF copy.

/This source is mainly a description of the form and nature of the varying types of marriage contracts among the Tiwi. The emphasis is on the factor of relative age as an important consideration. The author attempts a new perspective by using the point of view of a female Ego.

Kinship terminology and classification are discussed relevant to the marriage system. The last section deals with some aspects of the exchange of women between descent groups and local groups. -- Analyst/

Field date: 1954
Analyst: Joan Steffens

Evaluation: Ethnologist-5
Processed in 1963

OI20 Tiwi

11: Goodale, Jane C. Qualifications for Manhood: Tiwi invoke the Power of a Yam. Natural History, Vol. 72, No. 4, pp. 10-17. New York: American Museum of Natural History, 1963.

15 photographs

Personal copy of T. J. O'Leary.

[This article discusses the three-day Kulama ceremony of the Tiwi - a formal initiation into adulthood centering around the ritual preparation of a toxic yam. There is no set age for initiation. The instruction lasts six years and the initiates must participate in six Kulama rituals. An important feature of the ritual is the composition of songs and several examples are given. --Analyst]

Field date: 1954, 1962
Analyst: Joan Steffens

Evaluation: Ethnologist - 5
Processed in 1963

13: Barclay, Arthur. Life at Bathurst Island Mission. Walkabout, Vol. 5, No. 8, pp. 12-19. Melbourne and Sydney: Australian National Travel Association, 1939.

6 photographs; 1 map.

Yale: Eic +A91 5

/This article is an account of an Australian journalist's visit to the Mission of the Sacred Heart station on Melville and Bathurst Islands. The major emphasis is on the activities of the missionaries with some reference to the reaction of the natives. Sketchy data are included on Tiwi dress, toilet, weapons, dances, "wars", status of women and their concepts and treatment of illness. The description refers primarily to the "Christianized", semi-acculturated Tiwi living on mission grounds. --Analyst/

Field date: ca. 1939
Analyst: A. Vinogradov

Evaluation: Journalist-3
Processed in 1964

12: Goodale, Jane. "Alonga Bush" A Tiwi Hunt. University Museum Bulletin, Vol. 21, No. 3, pp. 2-35. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania, 1957.

21 photographs

Yale: A53P 216 21

/This source is a popularized account of the author's experiences and observations recorded during the hunting expedition of a Tiwi band in which she was allowed to participate. These observations are interspersed from time to time with bits of ethnographic data pertaining primarily to routine of travel, hunting and fowling techniques, food preparation, gathering activities, and perhaps most important of all, the high degree of acculturation effects, coupled with aboriginal techniques which seem to exist in the society without apparent conflict.

The author, a professional anthropologist, lived on Melville Island for a period of eight months, and was sponsored in her work by the National Geographic Society and the University Museum. --Analyst/

Field Date: 1957
Analyst: John Beierle

Evaluation: Ethnologist-5
Processed in 1964